## Bioterrorism

Public Health and Hospital Preparedness



### Wake of September 11, 2001 . . .

 Attention focused on the ability of hospitals, emergency medical services (EMS) systems, and public health to respond to bioterrorist events



## Survey of Rural and Urban ER's

- None of rural respondents believed their hospitals were prepared for biological weapons incidents
- Most urban respondents felt only partially prepared
- None of the rural sites had decontamination stations that could accommodate 10 – 15 casualties at once
- Of the larger hospitals, only 10% could manage 50 – 100 mass casualty patients



## Agents Most Likely Associated with Bioterrorism

- Anthrax
- Botulism
- Smallpox
- Plague
- Tularemia
- Hemorrhagic fevers (Ebola, Marburg)



## Other Potential Agents

- Brucellosis
- Glanders
- Hanta Virus
- Western equine encephalomyelitis
- Drug Resistant Tuberculosis
- Shigella, Salmonella, E coli 0157:H7, etc. moderate morbidity, low mortality



## Idaho's Response to Anthrax October through December 2001

#### **State EMS Communications Center**

--133 calls

#### **State Public Health Laboratory**

-- 50 samples tested (none positive)

#### **District Health Departments**

- -- 11 suspect cases investigated (7 postal workers)
- -- began carrying pagers for 24 X 7 response



# Federal Funding to Enhance Preparedness

#### **Federal Emergency Management Agency**

- \$3.5 billion base \$15 million/state -1st responders
- Equipment, training, exercises

#### **Department of Justice**

- \$301 million Idaho = \$1,040,000 1st responders
- Equipment, training, exercises

#### **U.S.** Department of Agriculture

- \$43.5 million Idaho = \$376,344
- State surveillance, response, plant surveillance



## Federal Funding - continued

#### **Health Resources and Services Administration**

\$125 million: Idaho = \$751,285 for hospital

planning, equipment

Ends March 31, 2003

#### **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

\$915 million: Idaho = \$7,880,688 for public

health planning, surveillance &

epi., communications, training

Ends August 30, 2003



## HRSA Hospital Preparedness

- Assess capacity to respond to outbreaks patient triage, isolation, mass care, etc.
- Develop hospital- and regional-specific response, communication, training plans
- Coordinate planning with public health and other health care resources
- Grants to priority hospitals to enhance capacity to respond



# Idaho's Hospital Preparedness Program

- Contract with Idaho Hospital Association -\$748,530 total
- IHA Subcontracts with hospitals (\$629,303):
  - Upgrade hospitals' abilities to respond to biological events (\$329,303)
  - Develop communication and reporting system (\$200,000)
  - Develop medicine distribution system (\$100,000)



# District Health Department Role in Hospital Preparedness Planning

 Coordination of public health planning with hospital planning to create an integrated system response to infectious disease outbreaks



## CDC Public Health Preparedness Cooperative Agreement Focus – District Health Departments

Public Health Assessment and Planning -- Jane Smith RN (\$.6 S/\$1.2 DH = \$1.8)

Plans that describe how public health will: identify disease, investigate source and prevent spread, provide training, distribute mass meds, communicate with providers and public

- Surveillance and Epidemiology Capacity -- Christine Hahn MD (\$1.5 S/\$.5 DH = \$2.0)
  Develop electronic disease reporting system, increase epidemiology capacity
- Laboratory Capacity Richard Hudson PhD (\$1.7)

Create bio-secure laboratory environment, enhance lab staffing and equipment to perform analysis

## M

## CDC Public Health Preparedness - continued

- Electronic Disease Reporting System/Health Alert Network (\$.7 S/\$.5 DH = \$1.2) EMS StateComm Center and district health capacity to respond to electronically reported diseases 24X7
- Communication of Health Information Jane Smith RN (\$.4 DH)
   Information officers for district health
- Education & Training -- Jane Smith RN (\$.38 S/\$.38 DH = \$.76) Training for public health staff



### Total Public Health Infrastructure Enhancements

#### **State**

13 FTEs

\$4.88 million (\$3.5 contracts and equipment)

#### **District Health Departments**

42 FTEs

\$2.99 Million



### Questions?